



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

SHORT-TERM BUSINESS STATISTICS

NATIONAL METHODOLOGY
INDUSTRIAL NEW ORDERS INDEX¹

¹ This is part of the STS Sources Updates 2010, which was sent to Eurostat.

Industrial new orders (2010)

Base information

Contact

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The Data: coverage, periodicity and timeliness

Coverage characteristics

Activities covered

Divisions 13, 14, 17, 20, 21 and 24 to 30 of Section C (Manufacturing) of NACE Rev. 2. The main focus is on those industries considered to be normally working on orders.

Geographical area covered

All parts of Greece are covered.

Size classes covered

The population consists of enterprises with 10 employees or more.

Other inclusions or exclusions

None.

Reporting unit

Enterprise.

Observation unit(s)

The Kind of Activity Unit (KAU).

Planned changes in the population surveyed

None.

Periodicity of data collection

Data collection is carried out monthly. The data should be received from the respondents within 10 calendar days after the reference month.

Timeliness

The industrial new orders received index is published no later than 50 days after the end of the reference month.

Data is provisional when first released. Data become final as soon as all data gathered become definite. More specifically the data released for the most recent month is provisional and is published together with revised data of the previous month. Monthly correction is made due to late reporting of respondents. The index is revised every month and considered to be final after the yearly correction which is normally undertaken by April of the year following the reference year.

Therefore:

— provisional data is published 50 days after the reference month,

- revised data is published 80 days after the reference month;
 - the index becomes final in April of the following year (response rate of about 99%).
- This revision policy is described in footnotes to the relevant tables.

Access by the public

Advance dissemination of release calendar

Release dates are fixed in advance for a calendar year. Precise dates of release are published by the NSSG before the end of each year for the forthcoming calendar year. At the end of December of each year the NSSG publishes a release calendar giving the precise release dates for the coming year. The calendar is distributed to the press and is available to all interested parties.

This calendar with information on release dates for the whole year is also available on the official website of the NSSG (www.statistics.gr) under the item "Calendar of press releases".

Simultaneous release to all interested parties

No users or anyone else outside NSSG have prior access to the data before its general release.

Data are released simultaneously to all interested parties by the industrial new orders index press release, which is posted on the official NSSG website (www.statistics.gr), according to the release calendar schedule. This press release is also available by fax or e-mail to all interested parties. In addition data is transmitted to Eurostat on the pre-announced day of release. According to the release calendar data is transmitted to Eurostat at the same time as national publication.

Integrity

Dissemination of terms and conditions under which official statistics are produced, including confidentiality of individual responses

The National Statistical Service of Greece is a public agency, supervised by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, responsible for the conduct and dissemination of official statistics. Provision has been made in specific articles of the Foundation Law 3627/56 and of the Law 2392/96 so as to assure confidentiality of individual data. These laws govern all individual statistics collected by the NSSG. According to the above laws, individual data are subject to confidentiality and cannot be published or made available to any person or organization.

Principles of methodology as well as data dissemination can be freely determined by the NSSG, taking into account international practices and, in particular, existing recommendations from Eurostat, instructions and norms related to the corresponding statistical item.

Identification of internal government access to data before release

There is no governmental access to data before its release.

Identification of ministerial commentary on the occasion of statistical releases

There is no ministerial commentary attached to the released data.

Provision of information about revision and advance notice of major changes in methodology

There is a formal revision policy. The index is revised every five years according to STS requirements. Major changes in methodology of the industrial new orders received index, are provided through a special publication and news release at the completion of the entire procedure of the revision, simultaneously with the first release of the revised data.

The above revision takes place every 5 years accompanying the rebasing of the index and the adaptation of the weighting system. For these major changes in methodology the public is informed in all relevant publications at the time they are introduced.

An advance short notice is given to the public with a special methodological paper concerning the change of the base year and explaining the sources and the methods used. This information is available on the website of NSSG.

Quality

Summary description of quality criteria calculated for national purposes

Not available.

Dissemination of documentation on methodology and sources used in preparing statistics

A special methodological paper is published containing detailed information on the sources and the methodology used. This can be found at the NSSG website www.statistics.gr.

Dissemination of information that support statistical cross-checks and provide assurance of reasonableness

No such information is disseminated.

Dissemination

Name of national paper publications

The industrial new orders index is published in the Monthly press release.

Name of national electronic dissemination

Every month, 50 days after the end of the reference month, the Short-term Indicators unit of NSSG draws up a press release on the newly calculated industrial new orders received index. This is sent free-of-charge and mostly by e-mail to the press and to other interested parties. The press release is also available on the website <http://www.statistics.gr>.

Description of standard tables produced

Data is published for Divisions 13, 14, 17, 20, 21 and 24 to 30 of NACE Rev. 2. There is a breakdown of the index between the domestic market and the non-domestic market, with a further split of the non-domestic market between euro area countries and non-euro area countries. Data for the industrial new orders received index is disseminated in a gross form. The index is not broken down by region. Data are presented in the form of indices and growth rates.

Additional breakdowns of the new orders received index beyond NACE Rev. 2 2-digit level are available (provided that the confidentiality rules are not violated) upon request to the NSSG (e-mail: data.dissem@statistics.gr and data.supply@statistics.gr).

Planned changes in national dissemination methods

None.

Transmission to Eurostat and further use of the statistics

Data is transmitted to Eurostat at the time of national publication, that is 50 days after the reference month, using the GESMES coding system via GENEDI. Data for the industrial new orders index is transmitted to Eurostat in a gross form.

Summary methodology

Analytical framework, concepts, definitions and classifications

Type of source

A statistical survey is used.

Name of indicator/source

Industrial new orders received index.

Legal basis

1) General NSSG legislation: Decree 3627/56 and Law 2392/96, governing the organisation of the National Statistical Service of Greece and the obligation of respondents to supply data and safeguard the confidentiality of data.

2) EU legislation: Council Regulation No 1165/98 of 19 May 1998, Regulation (EC) No 1158/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2005 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98.

Obligation on units to provide data

Decree 3627/56 and Law 2392/96. Fines may be imposed on non-respondents but they are not applied in practice.

Date of first use as a source

2000

Reference year of this report

2010

Survey frame on which the source is based

Greece uses a sample of establishments in order to select data for the estimation of the industrial new orders received index. The sampling frame is based on the data from the Annual Structural Survey in industry and Prodcom survey with reference year 2005 as well as the External trade survey of 2005, which are each conducted as a census.

Planned changes in legal basis, obligation to respond and frame used

None.

Questionnaires used in the survey

The same questionnaire is used for the collection of both turnover and new orders in industry. The questionnaire is customised for each enterprise. The local KAU identification data is printed and there is a pre-codification according to the activity of the local unit, as regards the commodities. The items concerning the new orders of the enterprise are pre-printed on the questionnaire.

This unique questionnaire has been designed with the objective to collect data both for turnover and new-orders in industry.

Information about the purpose of the survey, the definitions, and guidelines are also included, including information about the countries included in the euro area.

In addition it is indicated in the guidelines that if new orders are expressed in quantities they have to be converted to values on the basis of the average current sales prices.

Planned changes in national questionnaires

The use of web-based questionnaires.

List and definition of variables

The variables are defined as in Eurostat's methodological manual.

Information is asked for the following variables:

- domestic new orders received is the value of orders received by the observation unit during the reference month by clients resident in Greece;
- non-domestic new orders received is the value of new orders received and confirmed by the observation unit during the reference month by clients who are not residents in Greece;
- euro area new orders received is the value of new orders received and confirmed by the observation unit during the reference month by clients who are not residents in Greece but are residents of the euro area countries.

New orders refer to goods and services that are to be provided by the observation unit including those originating from sub-contractors. An order is the value of the contract linking a producer and a third party in respect of the future deliveries by the producer of goods and services.

The orders recorded for a particular reference month represent the value of contracts agreed during that month that connects a manufacturer with a third party for the supply of manufactured goods and services.

If the enterprise has orders for other products in addition to the pre-printed ones (in the questionnaire) it is obliged to register those orders for those products.

Planned changes in information collected

None.

Scope of the data***Activities covered***

Divisions 13, 14, 17, 20, 21 and 24 to 30 of NACE Rev. 2. The main focus is on those industries considered to be normally working on orders.

Geographical area covered

All parts of Greece are covered.

Size classes covered

The population consists of enterprises with 10 employees or more.

Other inclusions or exclusions

None.

Reporting unit

Enterprise.

Observation unit(s)

The Kind of Activity Unit (KAU).

Planned changes in the population surveyed

None.

Accounting conventions

Data refers to flows during the calendar month.

Nature of the basic data***Data collection media***

Data is collected by a postal statistical questionnaire.

The questionnaire is individualized for each observation unit. The local KAU identification data is printed on one side and there is a pre-codification, according to the activity of the local unit including pre-printed products and asking specific information. The items nomenclature and codification of each enterprise is pre-printed on the questionnaire.

Timetable of data collection

Questionnaires are sent to the enterprises at the end of the reference month asking for a reply by the 10th of the following month. The survey closes 46 days after the end of the reference period.

Sample or census

Sample both for units and products.

Criteria for stratification

Items were selected according to their value of export sales in decreasing order. The selected items cover approximately 80% of the total export sales of all large-scale (which excludes establishments with less than 10 employees) industrial units. The survey covers 68 selected 4-digit activities.

For the purpose of the survey a sample of enterprises was selected. The sampling enterprises were selected among the enterprises in the Annual industrial survey of 2005, according to their export turnover in decreasing order.

At the end the sampled units represent approximately 80-90% of the total value of export sales of all large-scale industrial units.

Stratification: The units were stratified by 4-digit NACE codes.

Initially, the surveyed commodities are selected so that the sum of turnover values are higher than 90% of the total turnover. In each Class (4-digit level) a sample of establishments is selected so that this sample represents at least 40% of the annual turnover in the Class and at least 70% of the annual turnover in each NACE Division (2-digit level).

Threshold values and percentages

Overall, the selected units represent approximately 93.8% of the total value. 563 enterprises are surveyed out of a population of 3,226 enterprises with 10 employees or more.

Main industrial groupings	Number of units in the sample
Energy	0
Intermediate goods	289
Capital goods	183
Consumer durable goods	21
Consumer non-durable goods	249
Total	742

Frequency of updating the sample

Every five years

Response rate

The index is compiled 50 days after the end of each reference month when the response rate is about 90%. One month after the first compilation the response rate is 95%. A yearly correction is done and the final indicator is published within three months of the end of the reference year, when the response rate is about 99%.

Actions to speed up or increase the rate of response

Missing responses are requested by telephone contacts and faxes and personal visits of interviewers and e-mails.

Periodicity of data collection

Monthly.

Planned changes in data collection methodology

Web based collection.

Compilation practices

Estimates for non-response

Non-response is treated by using results of previous periods and taking into consideration the trend calculated by the respondent units.

Estimates for grossing-up to population levels

None. Units below the cut-off are not represented in the final estimates.

Type of index

The New Orders Index in Industry is calculated initially at the four-digit level of economic activity and subsequently, with the implementation of appropriate weighting coefficients, the index is calculated at higher levels (three-level, two-level and one-level of economic activity) or at the level of Main Industrial Groupings (MIGs).

More specifically, in order to compile the index at the four-digit level k, the value of new orders of all the surveyed enterprises, for the month t, need to be computed and be compared to the average monthly value of new orders of the base year (2005=100.0), as follows:

$$I_{k,t} = \frac{y_{k,t}}{y_{k,0}}$$

where:

$y_{k,t}$: the monthly new orders value of all the surveyed enterprises at the four-digit level k during the month t,

$y_{k,0}$: the average monthly new orders value of all the surveyed enterprises at the four-digit level during the base year (2005).

The index I, at three-level, two-level and one-level of economic activity or at the level of MIGs, is compiled as follows:

$$I_t = \sum_k w_k I_{kt}$$

where:

$$w_k = \frac{Y_{k,0}}{\sum_k Y_{k,0}} \quad (\text{weighting coefficient of the four-digit level } k)$$

$Y_{k,0}$: the annual new orders value of all the enterprises of the four-digit level, in the base year, according to data from the surveyed enterprises for 2005.

$\sum_k Y_{k,0}$: the annual new orders value of all the four-digit levels k which compose the level for which the index is being compiled (three-digit, two-digit, one-digit level).

The sub-indicators for domestic and non-domestic market (with the distinction to Eurozone and non-Eurozone countries) are compiled correspondingly, with the values to be distinguished according to the product's destination to domestic and non-domestic market. Moreover, the weighting coefficients are separated to two categories depending on the product's destination, according to the results of the annual External Trade survey for 2005.

Base (reference) year

2005

Method of weighting and chaining

The weights are turnover by activity. Weights are based on sales and export turnover information from the Annual industrial survey data of 2005 in combination with data of the Prodcom survey and the External trade survey of 2005.

The weights were compiled through a product split of export turnover for each 4-digit level activity between the euro area and the non-euro area. To compile the weighting structure the correspondence between the CN (Combined Nomenclature) and CPA codes is taken into account.

WDA, SA and other calculations

Data is validated by comparing responses with the data for the corresponding month of the previous year of the same enterprise. Direct communication with the establishment follows up on detected outliers.

Due to purposive and cut-off sampling, a non-sampling error is produced.

The sampling error is not estimated because the sampling units are selected by purposive sampling (so that selected units represent value added higher than 40%), and not random sampling.

Confrontation with other data sets

Regular crosschecks are made with information from other surveys.

Comparison of the index to production value data from the Annual industrial survey and annual Prodcom survey is carried out. In addition cross-checks with other data such as the IPI and new orders received in industry are done on regular basis.

Treatment of confidential data

No activities are considered confidential at the 2-digit level of NACE Rev. 2 which is used for the reporting of indices.

Aggregations consisting of data of less than 3 establishments are regarded as confidential and therefore not published.

No activities are considered confidential at the 3-digit level of NACE Rev. 2.

Planned changes in production methods

None.